

John Ryan

Biography

State Representative John J. Ryan of Darien was first elected to the state House of Representatives in 1994 and is currently serving in his sixth term representing Darien and Rowayton.

Representative Ryan is an Assistant House Minority Leader. He also serves on General Assembly's General Law Committee, Planning and Development Committee and the Commerce Committee. During his first term, Representative Ryan also served on the Select Committee on Housing.

Among Representative Ryan's key legislative accomplishments was the passage of the Post 53 legislation. Joined by members of Darien's award-winning Post 53, Representative Ryan championed legislation allowing 16- and 17-year olds who are members of a certified ambulance service to be exempt from limitations on their learner's permit while they travel to and from the ambulance location as they respond to emergency calls.

In 1995, Representative Ryan was a leading advocate of legislation to eliminate the Connecticut succession tax. The legislation co-sponsored by Representative Ryan provides for the orderly phase-out of the state's "death tax" by 2005, formerly among the nation's highest. Since being elected to this post in 1994, Representative Ryan has joined Governor Rowland in cutting taxes by \$1.3 billion to date.

Representative Ryan, who travels one of the greatest distances to and from the Capitol, recorded a perfect voting record in 2000 for the 5th consecutive year.

He is active in professional, community and civic affairs in Darien and Norwalk. He served on the Darien Board of Ethics from 1991-'94 and was chairman from 1992-'94. He served on the Darien Representative Town Meeting from 1989-'94 and was a member of its Rules Committee and the Town Government, Structure and Administration Committee. He also served as Corporation Counsel of the City of Norwalk from 1981 to 1983.

In addition, Representative Ryan was a delegate to the 1986 White House Conference on Small Business and from 1983-'96 served on the Board of Directors and Executive Board of the Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce. At various times, he has served as the Chamber's Vice President of Governmental Affairs, Vice President of Economic Development and Corporate Secretary. In 1986, he received the Chamber's Small Business Advocate of the Year Award.

Representative Ryan also formerly served on the Board of Directors of the Greater Norwalk Community Council and still serves on the Board of the Vitam Center, Inc. and

its Executive Committee, the Friends of Norwalk Clean and Green, Inc., and the Darien Nature Center.

An attorney in private practice, Representative Ryan is admitted in all Connecticut courts, the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut, the Southern District of New York, the Eastern District of New York, the U.S. Court of Claims, the U.S. Tax Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States and is a member of the Connecticut Bar Association.

Representative Ryan received his Bachelor of Arts Degree, cum laude, in English, from the University of Notre Dame in 1973 and his Juris Doctor from Boston College Law School in 1976.

Representative Ryan served as President of the Notre Dame Club of Fairfield County from 1986-'89 and was the recipient of the Club's Man of the Year Award in 1988. He is a member of the Monogram Club, University of Notre Dame.